

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is being filed in response to the Office Action dated January 26, 2010, which has been reviewed and carefully considered. Reconsideration and allowance of the application in view of the amendments made above and the remarks to follow are respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4-6 and 9-19 are pending in the Application. Claim 9 is canceled herein, without prejudice. The Applicants respectfully reserve the right to reintroduce subject matter deleted herein, either at a later time during the prosecution of this application or any continuing applications.

In the Final Office Action, it is indicated that "claims 20 and 21 are directed to an invention that is independent or distinct from the invention originally claimed ..." This position is respectfully traversed and refuted in that the structure of the coupling of the pivot axis was never previously recited and is not currently recited in any other claims so it is not clear what the Final Office Action believes the claimed pivot axis is independent or distinct from.

The Final Office Action cites the present application, page 2, lines 11-13 in support of this notion however, it is respectfully submitted that reliance on this portion of the present application or any portion for that matter in support of a restriction requirement is misplaced.

The present application, in the section cited in the Final Office action simply states (emphasis added):

The means for providing the pivot axis may be realized by any suitable solution known in the art, especially by a hinge, an integral hinge, a coupling mechanism also used to couple the shaving head to the handle, or snap-in hooks.

As is clear from a review of the cited section, several structures for the pivot axis is provided yet the claims only recite a specific structure in the indicated claims 20 and 21. Accordingly, withdrawal of the restriction and rejoinder of claims 20 and 21 is respectfully requested.

In the Final Office Action, claims 1, 2, 4-6 and 9-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,933,960 to Avidor ("Avidor") in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,442,840 to Zucker ("Zucker") and U.S. Patent No. 5,661,907 to Apprille, Jr. (Apprille). The rejection of claims 1, 2, 4-6, 8-10 and 12-19 is traversed. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 2, 4-6 and 9-19 are allowable over Avidor in view of Zucker and Apprille for at least the following reasons.

In the Final Office Action, Avidor is cited for showing a "coupling coincident with a pivot axis between the shaving head and a handle attached to the shaving head by the coupling (132) ..." It is respectfully submitted that reliance on Avidor for showing that which is recited in the claims is misplaced.

The claims are amended to clarify that the first coupling that is coincident with a pivot axis is arranged between and substantially in-line with the couplings of the first and

second cutting blades as is clear from a simple inspection of the present application, such as shown in FIGs. 1-3.

As simple visual inspection of Avidor FIG. 17 cited in the Final Office Action, the pivotal connection 132 is displaced from the engage sockets 120 that are utilized for engaging the cartridge 112 including the razor blades which certainly is not substantially in line with the couplings of the razor blades.

It is respectfully submitted that the shaving head of claim 1 is not anticipated or made obvious by the teachings of Avidor in view of Zucker and Apprille. For example, Avidor in view of Zucker and Apprille does not teach, disclose or suggest, a shaving head that amongst other patentable elements, comprises (illustrative emphasis added) "a first coupling coincident with a pivot axis arranged between the shaving head and a handle attached or attachable to said shaving head by said coupling, wherein said pivot axis is arranged at least essentially parallel to said first and second cutting blades, the first and second cutting blades coupled to the shaving head on either side and substantially in-line with the first coupling that is offset from said cutting edge" as recited in claim 1, and as similarly recited in claim 19. Clearly, Avidor which is cited for showing the pivot axis, shows a very different arrangement of the coupling and the coupling of the razor blades to the shaving head.

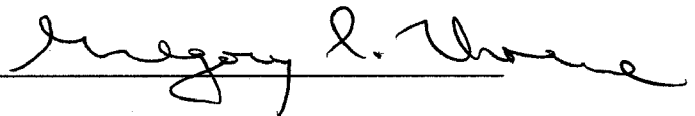
Therefore, in view of the above, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1 and 19 are patentable over Avidor in view of Zucker and Apprille and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited. Claims 2, 4-6, 8-18 and 20-22 respectively depend from one of claims 1

and 19 and accordingly are allowable over Avidor in view of Zucker and Apprille for at least this reason as well as for the separately patentable elements contained in each of the claims. Accordingly, separate consideration of each of the dependent claims is respectfully requested.

In addition, Applicants deny any statement, position or averment of the Examiner that is not specifically addressed by the foregoing argument and response. Any rejections and/or points of argument not addressed would appear to be moot in view of the presented remarks. However, the Applicants reserve the right to submit further arguments in support of the above stated position, should that become necessary. No arguments are waived and none of the Examiner's statements are conceded.

Applicants have made a diligent and sincere effort to place this application in condition for immediate allowance and notice to this effect is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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